



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

MS-13 GANG MEMBER ARRESTED BY ICE IN MONTICELLO

MONTICELLO, Ind. — U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers arrested a member of the violent “Mara Savatrucha” (MS-13) gang here last week in cooperation with the Monticello Police Department.

Victor Maravel, 28, a national of El Salvador, was arrested Thursday at his girlfriend’s residence in Monticello, Ind. Maravel is an admitted member of the violent MS-13 street gang, and is in the U.S. illegally. He has a criminal history that includes convictions for public intoxication, resisting law enforcement, and operating a vehicle without a license.



Working on a tip, ICE detention and removal officers attempted to arrest Maravel Thursday morning at his brother’s residence in Monticello. After being unable to locate him, ICE exchanged information with the Monticello Police Department, which encountered Maravel later that day at his girlfriend’s house and turned him over to ICE. Maravel, who has an outstanding final order of removal against him, will remain in ICE custody until he’s deported to El Salvador.

“Street gangs threaten the safety of our communities,” said ICE Field Office Director Deborah Achim. “ICE is aggressively targeting MS-13 gang members with the ultimate goal of removing them from the United States.” Achim oversees ICE Detention and Removal Operations in a six-state area that includes: Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Kentucky, Kansas and Missouri.

Maravel’s arrest is part of Operation Community Shield, an ICE national anti-gang initiative launched in March to target members of the MS-13 gang. To date, ICE agents, working with federal, state and local law enforcement partners, have arrested more than 400 MS-13 members nationwide. The vast majority of those arrested so far have been placed into removal proceedings.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.